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THE BRIDGE FAMILY OF NEW JERSEY, OHIO, AND WISCONSIN

Annie M. Hurd Karrer and Ferne M. Deininger Bridge ✓



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Archie L. Hard Karror and Torre M. Doininger Bridge

**1950079**

Index

Thomas Bridge (d. 1759) of New Jersey	Page 1
Descendants of Thomas and Mary Bridge	2
Benjamin Bridge (1748-1843) of New Jersey and Ohio	4
Descendants of Benjamin and Elizabeth Hathaway Bridge	7
John Bridge (1774-1855) of New Jersey, Ohio, and Wisconsin	11
Descendants of John and Deborah Clark Bridge	16
References to Authorities	28
Appendix I. Letter of Ebenezer Bridge, 1850	31
Appendix II. Other Bridge Families	34
Addenda and Errata	38

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## P R E F A C E

This manuscript on the descendants of Thomas Bridge of Morristown, New Jersey, and especially of his son Benjamin, soldier of the Revolutionary Army and my ancestor, is a documented outline of material from miscellaneous sources found in the states where they have lived and in the National Archives in Washington, D.C. As pioneer farmers in Ohio and Wisconsin, as leaders in their communities, as soldiers, many of them contributed to their state's development, and left the evidence of their lives in such various ways that we have been able to place them on their family tree.

I have been unable to find a connection with the Massachusetts Bridges of the printed genealogies, who trace their ancestry to John Bridge, the Puritan, memorialized by the statue near the Harvard campus. Our family, apparently the only one of the name in New Jersey in the early period, may have come directly from England, perhaps from Essex as did the Massachusetts Bridges.

The data have been compiled from such sources as family bibles, tombstone and cemetery records; wills and land deeds filed in courthouses of Eaton, Ohio, and Monroe, Wisconsin; obituaries in old newspapers, census records, military records in Army Archives; military pension records and bounty-land grants. Some relevant material was gleaned from the genealogy query-and-answer column of the Newark Evening Times, through the index in the library of the New Jersey Historical Society. Of help were data on Revolutionary soldiers compiled by the Daughters of the American Revolution, and the latter's lineage records of members. Material was found in manuscript files of libraries' genealogy departments as well as such printed sources as colonial church records, wills and documents of New Jersey Archives. Of great help were county histories and commemorative biographies of midwestern states where the families live; also the genealogical and historical magazines of New Jersey, Ohio, and Wisconsin. The libraries whose collections I have searched are those of Morristown and Newark, New Jersey; Brooklyn and New York City; Columbus, Ohio; Milwaukee and Madison, Wisconsin; D.A.R. and Library of Congress in Washington, D.C.; Newberry Library of Chicago.

For family records of the more recent generations I am indebted to Ella Wohlfom of Arbuckle, Cal., Mrs. Frank Larner of Warsaw, Ill., Col. Lewis Bridge of Acampo, Cal., Mrs. Letha Eagon of Seattle, Wash., Mattie Fillebrown of Enid, Oklahoma, and especially to Mrs. Ralph Bridge of Juda, Wis.

Annie May Karrer  
Port Republic, Md.



THE BRIDGE FAMILY OF NEW JERSEY, OHIO, AND WISCONSIN

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Thomas Bridge (d. 1759) of New Jersey

Our earliest date for Thomas Bridge of Morristown, New Jersey, is September 17, 1740, when he bought a 200-acre farm there of John Kay. The deed (24)<sup>2/</sup> says that "it lay on both sides of the road which led from Madison to Morristown by way of Col. Jacob Ford's".

Thomas' name occurs in "A List of the Several Freeholders in the County of Morris as fair as time would por'nt taken by Vertue of a Rule of the Supream Court by John Ford Sheriff of the County of Morris this thirteth first Day of August A Domi 1752" (2).

Thomas, his wife Mary, and their children are listed in the Combined Registers of the First Presbyterian Church of Morristown. The four oldest were baptized on November 10, 1745, the four younger ones at two-year intervals thereafter (la).

An abstract of Thomas' will, made Jan. 12, 1757, has been published (3a). To quote: "Bridge, Thomas of Morristown, Morris County, Yeoman,<sup>3/</sup> will of. Wife, Mary. Children,--David, John, Ralph, Thomas, Benjamin, Elizabeth, Sarah, Pamela, all under age." This will was probated Jan. 16, 1760. The following accompanies the abstract: 1759. Oct. 10. Inventory £ 205.11.4. This indicates that he died in 1759 and the will was probated some three months after his death.

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<sup>1/</sup> Mrs. Sebastian Karrer of Port Republic, Maryland; and Mrs. Ralph R. Bridge of Juda, Wisconsin.

<sup>2/</sup> Numbers in parentheses refer to books or articles listed on pages 28-30.

<sup>3/</sup> Yeomen of those days were small land owners. They constituted an intermediate class, between the gentry and the laborers.



## Descendants of Thomas & Mary Ridge

Of Thomas' wife, we know only that her name was Mary, that she was born in 1707 and died Feb. 6, 1777. Their children were:

1. David, born about 1740. Among records of old New Jersey wills is the notation that he died intestate in 1764, leaving a widow named Chloe and an estate valued at eight pounds and twelve shillings (3c, 4). Chloe petitioned for settlement of his estate June 22, 1764 (24).
2. Elizabeth, born about 1742, was married on Dec. 6, 1764 to Abel Tompkins (born in 1741). Their children and dates of birth (1c) were: Sarah, 1764 (sic); Phoebe, Feb. 6, 1766; Mary, Aug. 23, 1768; Anna, Sept. 23, 1770; Jacob, Aug. 17, 1772; (m. Abigail Dean); John, 1776. The Tompkins Genealogy (27, p. 99) includes an Elizabeth also, but no Sarah. Abel died about March 1, 1777, of smallpox contracted while nursing prisoners of the Revolutionary Army in the house of Elizabeth's brother, Ralph, which had been converted into a smallpox hospital (5a). Six years later, March 16, 1783, Elizabeth became the third wife of Benjamin Prudden, son of Joseph Prudden of the Morristown church, and grandson of Rev. John Prudden of the Newark church. They were married by "Tim'y Johnies, Pastor of the Church at Morristown and moved to Redstone, Washington County, Pennsylvania (1, p. 197; 24). On Dec. 10, 1793, she filed an application for compensation for her first husband's death, stating that he had been fatally affected "by the stink and malignity of the disorder then prevailing in the hospital". One of those who testified in the case was John Ward, Elizabeth's brother-in-law, who said that Tompkins had been on a tour of duty in the militia---- guarding the Continental Stores and Prisoners" and was taken from the Guard to the hospital to take care of the soldiers sick with smallpox. The government settled with an amount equal to half his pay from the date of his death to the date of his widow's marriage to Prudden.
3. John, born in 1743, died March 7, 1773. On Dec. 22, 1766, he married Johanna (Hannah) Kitchel, daughter of Joseph and sister of Aaron Kitchel, member of Congress. There are quite a few printed references to him and his family (1a, 1b, 3b, 4, 5b, 6a, 6b, 8, 8a, 8b, 24, 27). His will dated Sept. 11, 1772, and probated



On March 10, 1773, left to his wife "households goods and a cow. Lands to be sold and wife to receive 1/3 of the money. Son, Kitchel, the rest. Daughter, Jemima, to have her share. Children to have their part when they come of age". He is the only Bridge listed in the census of Morris Township in 1772.

John's daughter, Jemima (Nov. 15, 1767-1824), married John Halsey (1763-1827) on Feb. 12, 1787. Their children were Henry, Harriet, Bessey, Ludlow, Ichanna, Mary Ann, Lewis Kitchell, Jane A., William A., and Charles. His son, William Kitchell (Sept. 21, 1769-April 9, 1845) married Phoebe Miller (1779-May 12, 1802) on Dec. 5, 1797, and had John (died 1871, unmarried), Lewis K. who married Pauline W. Judd on July 12, 1824, and had nine children; and Evelyn who married Richard L. Wood. After his wife's death, Kitchell married Susan Day on March 4, 1804. Five references to his activities and affairs have been found in "Minutes of the Town Committee, Morristown, N.J., 1798-1855". (In D.A.R. Library, Washington, D.C.)

4. Ralph, baptized Nov. 10, 1745, married Jan. 18, 1773, to Catherine Rogers. He served as a private in the Revolutionary War in Dayton's New Jersey Battalion, later in Dalton's 3rd New Jersey Regiment (9). His muster roll and pay roll in the Army Archives in Washington, D.C., show that he first enlisted Feb. 14, 1776, was left sick at Schenectady on Oct. 26, 1776, was in camp at Ticonderoga Nov. 23, 1776, re-enlisted Jan. 29, 1777, was in garrison on Mt. Independence, Feb. 23, 1777, and was discharged Aug. 15, 1777. His plantation was part of the Thomas Bridge homestead and in his possession as late as 1785. The Rogers family still owned part of the land in 1806 (24).

5. Thomas, born in 1746, baptized Aug. 17 of that year, died May 26, 1775. His will (3b, 4) filed in Hanover, Morris County, suggests that he died unmarried. Dated March 28, 1775, and probated June 26, 1775, it leaves to "Mother, Mary Bridge, 5 shillings a year. My sister Permely's son, Thomas Bridge Word  $\frac{1}{2}$  when 21. Kitchell B.  $\frac{1}{4}$  when 21. Jemima Bridge L. 10 when 18. Rest to sisters Elizabeth Tomkin and Permely Word".

6. Sarah, baptized June 5, 1748, married July 21, 1782, to Nehemiah Johnson.



1. Benjamin, born Oct. 13, 1743, according to the only source we have (10a). However, we know he was baptized April 15, 1750 (1a). Since a birth date in this year would be more consistent with the ages given on enlisting in the Revolutionary Army and in his pension application, we suspect the 1743 to be wrong, especially since the source (10a) contains other errors. He died April 17, 1843. He is our ancestor and will be the subject of the next section of this paper.

2. Pamela, baptized May 9, 1752, married Aug. 15, 1773 to John Ward. She had a son named Thomas Bridge Ward, known because he was mentioned in his uncle Thomas' will (32).

Another Bridge, Robert, is listed by Stryker as one of three Bridges from New Jersey in the War of the Revolution (9). This is puzzling because like the other two, Ralph and Benjamin, Robert came from Morris County, yet no record has been found of other Bridges in New Jersey prior to 1800 except this one family of Morristown.

#### Benjamin Bridge (1743-1843) of New Jersey and Ohio

Benjamin was Thomas' youngest son. Information concerning him, in addition to that given above, is from the Register of the Morristown Presbyterian Church (1a), from printed items relating to his service in the War of the Revolution (9, 10a, 11), from his military records in the Army Archives in Washington, D.C., and Trenton, N.J., and from papers filed in connection with his pension (7).

On March 9, 1774, he married Elizabeth Hathaway. Their children were John, Johanna, Sarah, William, Pamela, Nancy, Benjamin, Ebenezer, Elizabeth. Information about them is given in the next section of this paper.

Benjamin enlisted as a private at Morristown, N.J., on March 4, 1776, for one year's service in the Continental Army. He was in Captain Joseph Lindsly's Company of Artificers under command of Col. Baldwin, "the Engineer". He went to Canada, returned and was in the battles of Trenton (Dec. 26, 1776) and Princeton (Jan. 3, 1777), then went back to Morristown where he was honorably discharged in March, 1777. He "conveyed" part of the Thomas Bridge homestead in 1778 (24).



Apparently Benjamin left New Jersey between 1791, the year of the birth of his son, Ebenezer, and 1798, that of his youngest child, Elizabeth. The reason for this supposition is that Elizabeth's place of birth is given in the 1850 Census of Wayne County, Ohio, as Pennsylvania, whereas Ebenezer's is given in the Census record of Cass County, Indiana, as New Jersey. The reason for the family's move to Pennsylvania may have been <sup>that</sup> Benjamin's sister Elizabeth moved there--to Redstone, Washington County-- after her second marriage in 1793, to Benjamin Proctor.

Benjamin next moved to Ohio and settled in Butler County. The first date we have for any of the family in Ohio is 1798, when David Clark Bridge, son of Benjamin's oldest son, John, was born there. Benjamin is listed in 1810 as a tax-payer of Butler County (2a), and five of his children—William, Pamela, Nancy, Benjamin, and Elizabeth-- were buried there between 1806 and 1820 (10). The 1820 Census lists him there, a citizen of Fairfield Township.

Benjamin's application for a soldier's pension is dated May 18, 1818, in Butler County. We find him listed among the Revolutionary pensioners of that county: "Benjamin Bridge, private, annual allowance \$96--- received for service in Congress Regiment" (22). In the folder containing his pension application, in the Archives in Washington, D.C., is a statement by an associate judge of Butler County dated July 19, 1819, certifying that Benjamin was in indigent circumstances and "does stand in need of assistance of his country for support". There was a delay in granting the pension, presumably because Benjamin lost his discharge papers. So nearly two years later, he had to appear before a court and testify to details of his service in the war. This was on April 4, 1821, in the Court of Common Pleas in Preble County where he had evidently moved by this date. He testified that he was a citizen of the United States, a carpenter, unable because of age and infirmity to support himself or work at his occupation, and that his property consisted of a yearling colt worth \$25, one bed and bedding worth \$18, and two books worth \$1. The signature is Benjamin <sup>Bridge</sup> ~~Bridge~~.

The pension was granted-- eight dollars a month with arrears from the time since



The application was first filed in 1818. Notification dated May 23, 1821, was sent to Eaton, Preble County, Ohio. Benjamin's son John had taken up land near Eaton in 1812, which probably was the reason for Benjamin's move there.

In 1838 Benjamin made his last move to Greene County, Ohio, to live with his youngest daughter, Elizabeth, whose husband, William Cox, was a well-to-do farmer in Bath Township (1850 Census). Benjamin is listed from there in the "Census of Pensioners for Revolutionary or Military Services, as Returned under the Act for taking the Sixth Census in 1840". We have the date of his move to Greene County from an affidavit filed with his pension claim. "War Department: Revolutionary Claim. I certify that in conformity with the law of the United States of March 18, 1818, Benjamin Bridge, late a private in the Army of the Revolution, is inscribed on the Pension List Roll of this Ohio agency----- that he now resides in Greene County and has resided there near four years past and previous thereto he resided in Butler County, Ohio. Sworn April, 1842." The last document filed in connection with his pension says: "I, Benjamin Bridge of Greene County in the State of Ohio, a Revolutionary pensioner of the United States, do hereby constitute and appoint William Cox my true and lawful attorney----- to receive my pension from 4 Sept. 1841 to March 4 1842. Witness my hand and seal 7 April, 1842". Cox's receipt for forty-eight dollars he collected for the six months is there, with a certified statement that the power of attorney to collect it was not given him "by reason of any sale, transfer or mortgage" of the pension, showing the government's protection of the pensioner against claims for debts.

Benjamin died the next year, on April 17, 1843, and was buried in Knob Prairie Cemetery near Enon, Clark County, Ohio.



# Descendants of Benjamin (1748-1843) and Elizabeth (Hathaway) Bridge

Information about the descendants of Benjamin and Elizabeth Bridge has been compiled from many sources - the Register of the First Presbyterian Church of Morristown, N.J., vital statistics, census lists, county histories, etc., - and from family records in the possession of Mrs. Frank Larner (nee Eula Cordell) of Warsaw, Ill., and Miss Ella Wohlfstrom of Arbuckle (Colusa County) California, descendants of the daughters Pamela and Nancy, respectively.

1. John (Dec. 21, 1774-March 18, 1855) m. Deborah Clark (1730-April 27, 1848). He is the ancestor who will be the subject of the next section of this paper.

2. Johanna (b. June 26, 1777) m. John Goldsmith (b. 1775). Both Johanna and John Goldsmith were born in New Jersey according to the 1850 census. It was at their home near Eaton, Ohio, that her brother John died on his return to Ohio for a visit from Wisconsin in 1855. A Preble County History (Ila, p. 697) tells us that this home was a farm a mile west of Eaton where Goldsmith had entered a quarter section in 1802. He had moved his family to it in 1806 from Butler County, near Middleton, and lived there the rest of his life. The land is described (p. 305) as n.w. quarter of section 4, township 7, range 2 east. Goldsmith served in the War of 1812. He and his family were members of the Eaton Christian Church of which he was a deacon. The children were:

a. Benjamin

b. William (1800-1882) m. Mary Null (d. 1886). They had nine children of whom two were living in Eaton in 1915:

(1) Pliny

(2) William Edward (March 19, 1836-1916)

m. (1) Emeline Bowles (1837-1874)

(a) Minnie m. Frank Dunlap of Eaton

(b) William A. farmed in Washington township, Preble County, Ohio

(c) Clara m. Edgar Quinn of Washington township

m. (2) Phebe A. (1843-1927)

(3) John G. (b. 1828) m. Frances -- (b. 1832) farmed in Washington township  
(From Census of 1850)

c. Deliverance

3. Sarah (b. April 1, 1780) m. -- Clark (?). His name is guessed from the letter quoted in Appendix I.

4. William (b. Oct. 18, 1782) m. Rebecca F. Grimes on Nov. 3 1808. She was a daughter of Rev. James Grimes (1760-1846) of Washington, D.C., who moved to Butler County, O. William settled in Middleton, (Lemon t.p.) Butler County, O. in 1804. In 1811 his name appears among the electors of Champaign County at which time he was chosen to be a "fence-viewer" (12a), (12b). Their children:

a. Ann m. John Lummis on Jan. 25, 1827. Their children:

(1) James (b. 1830) m. Mary F. Deardorff (b. 1840) in 1859.

(2) Frank K.

(3) George D.

(4) Charles A.

(5) John H.

(6) Harry A.

b. Susan (1811-1875) m. Jonathan J. Pettit (b. 1806) March 14, 1844 (12b).

5. Pamela (March 24, 1785-July 29, 1851) m. Henry Washington Vail (May 9, 1783-Nov. 14, 1831) on Jan. 19, 1806. They lived in Butler County, Madison township, O.



about 1847, she and her twelve children, some with families of their own, making forty in all, moved to farms in Illinois, in the Rushville-Industry area. She is buried in Bethany Cemetery near Industry. Many of her descendants have lived and are buried in this area. Additional data on later generations, supplied by Mrs. Frank Larner of Warsaw, Ill., are available. Their children were:

- a. Maria (b. Jan. 27, 1807) m. --Farris.
- b. Fanny (b. Sept. 14, 1808) m. --Luddington.
- c. Sarah (Sally) (b. Nov. 15, 1810) n. George Garrison. Their children were:  
Mary n. Cox; Henry n. Card Ogan; Pernelia n. --Pittman, later J.C. Moore, then J.Bock; Rebecca n. --Forsythe; Margaret n. n. Sheesley; George W. m. Louise Pittman; Sarah L. n. J. Downing; Ann Eliza m. George Kirkham; Frank W. n. Ebenezer Vail and had Alice who n. Thomas Cordell, Almira who n. Fred Hayden, and Cora who m. William Clawson; Edward n. Ella Legge.
- d. Elizabeth (b. Feb. 24, 1813) m. Moses Vail, her cousin, a son of Isaac Vail. Had 3 children. (See 12a, p. 500)
- e. Rebecca (b. Dec. 12, 1814) m. Abraham Garrison. Their children were: Sarah E. n. Robert Lambert; Esther Jane; Henry W.; George F., whose daughter is Mrs. Nellie Corrie.
- f. Armanda (b. Oct. 18, 1816) n. Isaac Garrison. Their children were: Pernelia n. Charles Moore; Frank m. --Beaston, later a Mrs. Gaddis; John m. Lilly Knock; Armanda, unmarried; Sara n. Will McFeeeters; Lillie m. --Applegate; Isaac, unmarried; Katherine n. Frank Rodewald; Timothy n. Bessie Hall and had Helen, Vail, and Kline; Jessie n. Fannie Bates.
- g. David Jennens (Sept. 1, 1818- Sept. 17, 1887) m. Kesiah Scudder (Nov. 17, 1823-Feb. 8, 1877) on Feb. 23, 1843. Their children were:  
(1) Enoch (b. Feb. 24, 1844) m. Lucy M. Mills. Had Moses, Ezra, Everett, Cary.  
(2) Henry W. (Sept. 3, 1846-1933) n. Anna M. Jennings. Had Luther, Alta, Oral, Bertie, Luna, and Harry. (3) Frances (b. and d. 1848).  
(4) Aaron Jefferson ("A.J.") (March 9, 1850-March, 1944) n. Elizabeth Kenyon (1858-1917). Had Cary (b. 1879), Lola (b. 1882), Mary (b. 1885).  
(5) Marinda (b. and d. 1852). (6) Anna H. (March 20, 1855-Dec. 16, 1941).  
(7) Lorenzo D. (July 9, 1857-Aug. 1914).  
(8) Lucy E. (b. June 24, 1860) n. Robert McMurray Cordell (Feb. 22, 1861-Feb. 21, 1938) on Nov. 22, 1883. Their children were: Lola (b. and d. 1884); Lois K. (1886-1920) n. John Clay Bruner and had James, Anna, Ida; Vail (b. 1889) n. Gertrude Robinson and had Robert, Lucy Lee, Vail; Catherine; Eula C. (b. 1891) n. Frank Larner (b. 1893) and had Ethelyn, Lois K., Frank H. and Rachel Grace; D. Grace (1893-Dec. 22, 1955); Robert R. (b. 1895) n. Esther Gustafson and had William R., Robert D., and Richard L.  
(9) Jasper Newton (b. June 27, 1864- Sept. 25, 1955) n. Anna --.
- h. Desia (b. March 9, 1821) m. --Rogers.
- i. Pernelia (Jan. 25, 1824-June 21, 1901) n. (1) Lafayette Cordell (Oct. 6, 1826-Sept. 17, 1860), and had Harvey R. (b. 1856); Thomas W. (b. 1857) m. Olive Morgan Mary A. (1860-1952) n. George A. Justus. Pernelia n. (2) Mordica Springer and had Charles,
- j. Henry W. (Jan. 19, 1826-April 3, 1897) n. Rachel Cox (1826-1888), his cousin. (Their children are given under her name in a later section of this outline.)
- k. Rhoda Jane (b. Jan. 23, 1828) n. Caleb Hathaway. Had William n. Lillie Merrick (1855-1951); Lib n. --Reynolds; Ed.
- l. Esther (Dec. 15, 1829-June 19, 1877) n. Flavius Cordell (Oct. 1, 1828-June 10, 1909) on Feb. 17, 1853. Had Mabel (b. 1854) m. L.W. Flack; William E. (1856-1857); John E. (b. 1858) n. Rhoda Loftridge; William M. (1861-1862).



Collins (1863-1864); Mary A. (b. 1863) m. F. E. Erwin; Louella F. (1865-1890); Carrie C. (b. 1867) m. Andrew W. Smith; Avegnetta (1871-1877).

6. Nancy (Aug. 23; 1787-1859) m. Thomas Vail (June 26, 1785-Feb. 26, 1873) on March 22, 1811. They moved from Butler County Ohio to Industry, Ill., in 1834. Many descendants are buried in the Vail Cemetery there. He was a brother of Henry W. Vail, husband of Nancy's sister Pamela.

a. John Burnett (b. Dec. 18, 1811) m. Sophia Brown (b. May 22, 1807) on May 11, 1834. Had: Mary, Nancy, Christopher, Thomas J. (Oct. 21, 1839-July 3, 1863; d. Nashville, Tenn., in Civil War), Martin, Adaline, Lavinia, Ezra, William.

b. Benjamin (May 12, 1813-Jan. 7?, 1899) m. Susan Smithers (b. Aug. 7, 1821) in 1840.

c. Joanna (b. Feb. 12, 1816) m. Jesse Brown (b. June 16, 1808) on June 18, 1837. Had Daniel, Civil War Veteran.

d. Deziah L. (Jan. 22, 1818-Sept. 2, 1851) m. John Brady Stewart (Aug. 11, 1814-Oct. 15, 1897) on Jan. 22, 1839. Ella Wohlfom of Arbuckle, Calif., daughter of Margaret, has supplied data on later generations of this family that are not included in the present outline.

(1) Thomas Bridge (Oct. 18, 1839-March 16, 1905) m. Rachel Bridges (1843-1924) Civil War Veteran. Had: Frank A. (1863-1934) and Eva D. (1866-1945).

(2) Francis M. (Dec. 6, 1840-Aug. 20, 1864). Died in Andersonville Prison during Civil War.

(3) William B. (June 26, 1842-Dec. 14, 1842).

(4) Lemuel (Jan. 22, 1844-Feb. 19, 1850).

(5) Margaret A. (Sept. 23, 1845-Aug. 28, 1917) m. in March, 1869 to Francis Joseph Wohlfom (Jan. 31, 1829-Oct. 30, 1900) Arbuckle, Calif. He came from Alsace in 1852. Their children were: <sup>Oct. 1956</sup>  
Frank J. (b. 1869) m. Emma Rothman (b. 1872) and had Burdette, Lucille, Emma (1871-1912) m. William D. Bradford (1864-1947) and had Wilmer, Thelma, and Francis; Thomas B. (b. 1874) m. Alice Hurlbut and had Velda L. and Harold H.; Clara (b. 1877); Dora A. (1882-1923); Ella Louise (b. 1886).

(6) Nancy V. (1848-1849).

(7) Elizabeth L. (1850-1851).

e. James Marshall (b. July 4, 1820) m. Elizabeth Jane Pennington on Sept. 21, 1843. Had: William, Ebenezer, Sarah, Mary. One of these daughters m. Geo. Laughlin and had dau. Caroline.

f. Ebenezer (Dec. 14, 1821-July 4, 1881) m. Amy Garrison. Had: Cora who m. Wm. Clausen (d. 1952), whose daughter is Elnora Reeder of Industry, Ill.<sup>1956</sup>

g. Elizabeth (Sept. 23, 1823-Nov. 13?, 1904) m. Jesse Janes of McDonough Co., Ill.

h. Thomas. He is on Alfred Vail's list, supplied by Mrs. Frank Larner, but not on Ella Wohlfom's list, given to her by Dr. Wm. Penn Vail.



7. Benjamin (b. June 19, 1790) m. Elizabeth Davis on April 10, 1816.
8. Ebenezer (b. Nov. 20, 1791) m. Jane Sellers (b. 1802). From the census of 1850 we know that he was born in New Jersey. He is listed (12c, p. 61) as a private in the Ohio company of Capt. Thomas Freeman in the War of 1812 from Sept. 5, 1813, to Jan. 31, 1814. The muster rolls in the Army Archives show that he then served until March 3, 1814, at Fort Shelby, M. Ter., and that his home was in Butler County, O. In the Preble County court house at Eaton, O., are deeds for property transferred to him by Joseph Sellers, his father-in-law, on Feb. 11, 1824; and from him and Jane to M. J. Lincoln in 1826. According to Mrs. Runyon of Eaton there is another deed recording an exchange of land by him in Warren County, O., in 1825. In 1850 he was living on a farm near Metea in Cass County, Bethlehem Twp., nine miles north of Logansport, Ind. A letter he wrote that year to his Wisconsin relatives, the children of his brother John, indicates that he moved from Ohio to Indiana in 1836, the same year that John moved from Ohio to Wisconsin. This letter (Appendix I) is in the possession of Ralph Bridge of Juda, Wis. From it and the 1850 census we know something of Ebenezer's family:
  - a. Oldest son, name unknown, died in Mexico during war of 1846-1848.
  - b. Sarah Elizabeth m. Joseph Howland and lived in Metea area.
  - c. Caroline m. William Henton in the Metea area.
  - c. William (b. 1833).
  - d. Eliza (b. 1834).



Dec. 19, 1920. She was born in Pennsylvania, according to the 1850 census, the only child of Benjamin Latson in New Jersey. In 1850 she was living on a farm in Bath Twp., Greene County, O. She, her husband, and some of their descendants are buried in Prairie Knob Cemetery near Elton, O., in 1933. Lawrence D. Wilhelm of McComb, Ill., sent the following outline of descend-  
ances to Mrs. Frank Larner of Warsaw, Ill., who has also supplied data for  
later generations not included here:

- a. Edmon (Aug. 18, 1821- Dec. 11, 1846). Unmarried
- b. Nancy (Nov. 1, 1822- May 8, 1887) m. Templeton ... Bailey (Dec. 24, 1819-1880) on Dec. 6, 1846. She was born in Warren County. He was a farmer near Eaton who came from Virginia in 1829 (12c). Their children, with birthdates, were:  
David H. (1848) m. Anna Hern and had Frances who m. Charles H. Peckham (164)  
Elizabeth (1850) m. Peter Grube and had Harry, Phena, May, and Wilson;  
Martha (1851-1855); Susan (1853) m. Abe Sidenstick; Earle (b. and d. 1855);  
Harry E. (1860) m. Lawrence D. Wilhelm of McComb, Ill., and had Martha and Ernest; Rosetta m. W. J. Faintrock and had Earl, Coyle, Leo, Gladys; Lillian C. (1868) m. Cora Blousier and had Howard and Hazel;
- c. Benjamin (Feb. 12, 1824-April 14, 1843) m. Nancy Bailey. Had: Marshall.
- d. Rachel (April 12, 1826-Feb. 25, 1886) m. Henry Washington Vail (Jan. 19, 1826-April 3, 1897), her cousin. He was born near Middleton, O. Both are buried in Camp Creek Cemetery, McDonough County, Ill., near Industry. Had:  
Lawrence A. m. four times - to (1) Alice Bliss, (2) Abbie Robinson and had Ruth and Lawrence, (3) June Ebert and had June and Ebert, (4) Mary Powell and had Otis, Della, Marion, Rosa, and Walter; William T. m. Rosa V. Foster and had Genar, Leta, and Payline; Orinda J. m. Shopward; James P. m. Martha Harlan and had Ethel and Nina; May m. Charles Austin and had Leonard and Hazel.
- e. David (April 22, 1828-June 3, 1911) m. Mary Garrison of Schuyler County, Ill. Both are buried at Leroy, Kansas. Their children were: Harry E. m. (1) William Atkins and had Della, (2) Curtis White and had Rose and Harry; Laura B. m. Silas Johnson and had Stella, Louis, and George; George m. Ida Smith and had Grace; Adda m. William Johnson and had Russell and Rich; William m. Anna Green and had Tessie, Earl, May, and Vern; Joe m. Nannie Borten and had Hazel and Cora; Anna m. (1) Alfred Johnson and had Roy, (2) George Bolin; Cora m. Ashal Johnson; Edmon m. Maggie Kitterman.
- f. John (b. Feb. 22, 1832) m. Sara Coan
- g. William (Sept. 18, 1833-March 18, 1910?). Unmarried.
- h. Joseph (April 8, 1837-Jan. 14, 1853)
- i. James (Nov. 10, 1840-July 5, 1864) Unmarried
- j. Ebenezer (Aug. 30, 1842-Sept. 24, 1843)
- k. Elizabeth (b. April 5, 1847) m. Henry Garrison. She is buried in Bethany Cemetery, Schuyler County, Ill., and he at Industry. Their children were:  
George m. (1) Logan and had Guy, (2) Emma Ingles; Dora m. Harry Justus and had Loren, Florence, Ica, Lyle; Nettie m. Fred Johnson and had Fred, Ervin (and Frank, Elsie), and Henry.

(Fred)



John was the oldest son of Benjamin (1748-1843). He was born in New Jersey and migrated to Ohio (16, p.391) where his oldest son, David, was born in 1798. His wife was Deborah Clark, born in New Jersey in 1780. Her parents, Stephanus and Keziah Doty Clark, also moved to Ohio (26, pp.75,502). Deborah died April 27, 1843.

In 1812 John bought from the government 160 acres of land in Preble County, near Eaton, Ohio. Ralph Bridge of Juda, Wis., has the original deed to this land, dated July 30, 1812, and signed by President James Madison. The farm is reached by driving two miles east from Eaton on the Dayton Road, then a mile south on the old Lanier, now the Yost Road (s.e. quarter of sect. 1 of twp. 7 in range 2, lying east of the meridian).

John probably came to Preble County from Butler County where his father and other members of the family were living. Other Bridges whose connections with the line we are tracing is not known to us settled in Warren County. Mrs. Grace Runyan, a D.A.R. historian and author of "Historical Facts on Preble County" (19) has written us: "When the pioneers were trying to establish homes in this southwest section of Ohio, most of them came through Cincinnati. There was a well-defined trail to Warren County, where all seem to have tarried, especially if families were along, then going north to Preble County, or west to Butler County then north to Preble County".

John served in the War of 1812 (11, p.84; 12, p.40). His application, dated June 4, 1852, for bounty land granted by the government to ex-soldiers says he "was a private in the company (Ohio Militia) commanded by Captain John Fleming and served in that detachment of said Company commanded by Lieutenant Silas Fleming in the Regiment of Infantry commanded by Major George Adams in the War with Great Britain declared by the United States June 18th A.D. 1812". He was drafted at Eaton and was honorably discharged at Fort Mispot in western Ohio (where he was stationed after his company had been "ordered to the frontier") after serving his term of six months. We know from the muster- and pay-roll records in the Army Archives in



John sold his Ohio farm and moved to Wisconsin in 1836. The deed of sale of his Ohio farm, in the court house at Eaton, O. (Deeds, v. 18, p. 405) is dated Feb. 17, 1836. The signature reads "John ~~mark~~<sup>his</sup> Bridge", Deborah, his wife, has her name written there, too, with a statement by the judge certifying that he consulted her separately to ascertain that she freely gave her consent to the sale. The purchaser, J.B. Sayres, in a later record of transfer of the land to Curry for debt (p. 404) says that he paid \$1600 for the 160 acres.

John and his sons, David and Jeremiah, with their uncle, Jonathan L. Clark, (1795-1885) had selected their Wisconsin land in 1835, and became the first settlers in Jefferson township, Green County, in 1836 (13, p. 167; 14, p. 367). In the First Territorial Census of 1836 (15) the Bridges are represented by a single listing reading "J. Bridge, 8". John's third son, John Hathaway Bridge, came in 1840, though we are told (14, p. 969) that he, too, selected his land in 1835.

The Bridges and the friends who came to Wisconsin with them, or soon after, settled near each other-- the older John on section 29 of Jefferson township, and his sons nearby. In 1857, there came Michael Albin who married John's daughter, Deborah Ann, and Joel De Camp who had married John's daughter Matilda in Ohio. Bingham (13, p. 168) says that the farm sites were selected with reference to ties of friendship formed through the church organizations, those of the Christian church to which the Bridges belonged congregating near section 32.

A few details of their lives as pioneers of Jefferson township are known to us from events recorded in the two histories of Green County, Wisconsin. (13, 14). We are told that soon after her arrival Mrs. John Bridge instituted a weekly spelling school in her home, attended by all children within a mile. The first regular school was held at the home of David Bridge. The first religious services in the southwestern part of the township were held in his home. The congregation included John's wife, Deborah; their three sons, David, Jeremiah, and John H.; and

4/ Inclusion of his name in "Official Roster of Soldiers of the American Revolution who lived in Ohio" published by the Daughters of the American Revolution (10b) is a mistake. He wasn't born until 1774. The mistake is repeated by Ruyan (19, p. 106).



two of his daughters, Deborah (who became Mrs. Michael Albin) and Nancy (who became Mrs. Henry Starr). John H. Bridge was the first deacon. Jeremiah was elected a committee chairman at the first election held in Jefferson township. A later list of township officers contains the names of both Jeremiah and John H. Bridge. So we know that John and his family were active in promoting the welfare of this pioneer community.

In 1850 the government passed a bounty-land act for the benefit of ex-soldiers of the War of 1812. The elder John applied for and received in 1852 a warrant entitling him to 80 acres of land. His application and papers filed in connection with it are in a folder in the Bounty-Land Files of the Office of Pension Records in the U.S. Archives, Washington, D.C.

The old letters, documents, affidavits, and newspaper clippings in John's folder tell us that he sold his bounty-land warrant. It was purchased in 1854 by Jacob L. Rogers of the Iowa House of Representatives ( $\frac{1}{16}$  from G.A. Newcomb after it had passed through several hands--an example of the common practice of speculating in warrants whose original owners wanted money more than land. Rogers lost the warrant in the Township of Eden, County of Fayette, Iowa, on July 18, 1854. With the petition to the government for a duplicate, he enclosed a dollar as recompense for the trouble he was causing! He was notified that he must prove his efforts to recover the warrant by submitting evidence of publication of its loss in the nearest newspaper. So there in the folder is the yellowed newspaper clipping from "Fayette County Pioneer" of West Union, Iowa, headed "Lost Land Warrant", giving the time and place of his loss of "Military Bounty-Land Warrant No. 43714 issued to John Bridge----". There is a certified statement from the newspaper editor that the notice appeared in six consecutive numbers of the paper, a "Newspaper of general circulation", beginning March 21, 1855. The government reissued the warrant Oct. 8, 1855. There is no evidence in the folder that the original ever turned up. (But the one marked "Duplicate" is there with the record that it was finally submitted for land by one Michael Finnegan who was granted 80 acres near Chatfield, Minn. in 1859).



A puzzling sequel appeared in the Monroe Evening Times (then the Sentinel) after John's death. His two oldest sons, David and Jeremiah, administered the estate, petitioned on Feb. 16, 1856, to sell the same warrant "for the purpose of paying the debts of said deceased". On April 7 the county judge ordered it sold at auction to the highest bidder. This warrant. Later in the month the newspaper reported disposal of the warrant for \$95 to J. A. Rogers who, according to the newspaper and an accompanying letter "has a just claim against said deceased for \$80". A certified statement by the county judge confirms the sale to J. A. Rogers as the highest bidder, "said sale being in all respects fair and legal and advantageous to said estate". This sale occurred two years after the previous sale of the warrant to Rogers by Neuberle in Iowa.

From the information John gave the census enumerator in 1850, five years before his death, we know that he was a highly successful farmer, owning real estate worth well, 200, much more than that of the average farmer of Green County. It is interesting to learn from this census that at this time he was head of a household consisting of his widowed daughter, Nancy Starr, and her three young children.

A few years later John made a trip to Ohio—family tradition says he went on horseback—and died there, we have found his grave in Mount Hill Cemetery in Eaton, marked by one of the thin slab monuments of that period, beside the similarly marked grave of his daughter, Keziah Banta. The date of death inscribed on the tombstone, March 20, 1854, is wrong. Papers filed with his will, and his obituary in the Eaton newspaper, establish the date as March 28, 1855. His wife Deborah is buried in Johnson Cemetery about 10 miles southeast of Monroe, Wis.

One of the highlights of our ancestor hunt was finding John's obituary in the Eaton Weekly Register, "A Family Newspaper Devoted to Politics, News, Science, Agriculture, Markets, and the Dissemination of Virtue and Truth", for March 28, 1855. This obituary reads: John Bridge Sen., of Green County, Wisconsin, died of a cerebral affection on the 18th inst., at the residence of Mr. Bruley's in Lodi, John Goldsmith, son, near this place, in the 81st year of his age. This deceased emigrated from Morris County, New Jersey, served in the war of 1812 in the Union command



by Capt. Levi Fleming. In 1836 he again emigrated to the western wilds, preferring as most of our early settlers did, a border life. Living a quiet and orderly life, he took his eternal exit of this busy world, without a murmur, leaving a host of relatives and friends, to mourn his departure."

Back in Wisconsin it must have been difficult to make the equitable division ordered in his will, of John's various land holdings, totaling about 500 acres, and his personal property, among his six living children, and to divide the share of another, Koziah, among her seven children. The will, in the Green County Court-House in Monroe, Wis., was made in 1847, a year before his wife died: "I give and bequeath to my beloved wife Deborah Bridge the use of all my property, lands, and tenements, goods and chattels, she first disposing of a sufficiency to pay all just debts as aforesaid, after her decease it is my will that whatever shall be left over ~~be~~ <sup>is</sup> equally divided among my children--". This will deducted various sums up to \$7,46.95 that had already "been received from me", from the shares of three of them, showing that he kept exact records even in dealing with his children. He named his wife and two older sons, David C. and Jeremiah, as executors.

The papers filed with the will show it to have been set aside on the grounds that it was witnessed by only two persons whereas the law required three. The executors then divided the property among the children without specifying money deductions from the shares of the three who had borrowed from their father; but when the lands were divided, we see by the final settlement (Feb. 19, 1856) that these three received 50, 54, and 58 acres, respectively, as compared with 80 to 90 acres for each of the others.

Among the old papers filed with the will is an inventory of John's personal property. Besides a black mare worth \$60, it lists small items of house furnishings and farm equipment, including a kit of shoe-making tools, a sausage stuffer, a candle-mold, a "krout" tub, a buffalo robe, an umbrella worth 25¢, a wash tub, five horseshoes, 8 boards, a "cold chissel", etc. Telling more of John himself were his books--a Bible, Testament, History of Josephus, Campbell's Debates,



Jack Downing's Letters, a Geography and Atlas. There was little money to divide. John had evidently invested his savings in land. The panic and bank failures of 1837 were probably deterrents to other forms of investment for many years.

All of John's children, David Clark, Elizabeth, Jeremiah, Matilda, Keziah, Nancy, Deborah Ann, and John Hathaway, were born in Ohio. A record of his descendants follows.

### 1. David

David Clark, John's oldest son, was born in Ohio on August 7, 1798. On October 14, 1819, he was married to Catharine Voorhis (May 20, 1796-Nov. 24, 1835) in the Christian church in Eaton, Ohio (21). Her ancestors were Dutch, settling in New Jersey in colonial times (14, p. 863).

The two histories of Green County contain a number of references to David (13, pp. 167, 170; 14, pp. 152, 867-8, 873). He first came to Wisconsin in 1835 though he did not settle on his land until 1836. He and his relatives were the first settlers of Jefferson township, Green County. His original farm was in Section 32. Later he owned land in Sections 29 and 30 also.

David was a man of wide interests and capabilities, and contributed much to the welfare of his community. The first school in Jefferson township was held in his home as were the first religious services. He kept a store near the present Fairfield church. One of his store ledgers is owned by Mrs. Le Roy Penniston (Margaret Noble) of Milwaukee. Algebraic calculations on its fly leaves suggest that David had received an education. The accounts, dated between 1840 and 1850, include those of twenty-two relatives and members of his family kept with the same exactness that characterized the others. Entries include charges and credits for such work as "breaking prairie" at 75¢ a day, heading and hewing timber, making shoes at .25¢ for 4 pairs, spinning wool, "ministerial labors", washing clothes, (e.g. 5 washings, 52, 87), mending shirts and pantaloons, etc. His son George worked many days in the store for 50¢ a day selling the things used in a pioneer community, including "parched corn meal", flour, corn meal, corn chips,



nervous and bone medicine, Jane's expectorant, etc. On one page of the ledger are complete directions for making a large loom. On a fly leaf are the birth dates of his children.

David died January 22, 1882. His obituary in the Monroe Sentinel for February 6, 1882, tells of his many contributions to the welfare of his community. It says, "others came [to Green County] before him but he came to stay, and has lived here ever since, an honored and valued factor of the community that had grown up around the pioneers". It was stated further that he was the first "to urge selection of a delegation to attend a convention at Madison which organized the Republican party, of which Mr. Bridge remained a true and faithful member ever after". He was the leader in the organization of the first Society of Christians (then called Liberals) in the county, and built the first church of that denomination in Monroe. He was a "faithful member of the Christian denomination and always contributed his share to the support thereof". He was active in organizing the school district of Fairfield, and the school was built mainly through his efforts. He was a great reader and had an unusually large and valuable library for a private citizen. It is stated that he worked for principles, letting others take the lead, not aspiring to office, encouraging reforms, an honest man, "faithful to the end".

David's children were Lanah, Juliet, Elizabeth, Jacob, George, Katherine, Isaac, David, and Cornelius. An outline giving their dates and those of their descendants, as far as known, follows:

1. Lanah (July 29, 1820-Jan. 7, 1829)
2. Juliet (June 11, 1822-Sept. 27, 1873) m. Levi Starr (March 22, 1817-Feb. 1, 1893). Both buried in Monroe, Wis.
3. Elizabeth (Dec. 22, 1823-Jan. 20, 1899) m. Jessie Starr (1819-1865). Carthage, Ill.; both buried in Johnson Cemetery
  - a. Julietta (1842--?)
  - b. Levi (b. 1844)
  - c. George (1846-1870). Buried in Johnson Cemetery.
  - d. Mary Catherine (1848-Juno, 1910) m. David Ely in Feb., 1870. York, Neb.
    - (1) Dillie (1871-1931) m. George Thompson. York, Neb.
    - (2) Edith (1873-1921) m. Fay Copsey. York, Neb.
    - (3) Thurman (1874-1941)
    - (4) Rose (b. 1879--) m. William Hagerichler. Potter, Neb.
    - (5) Arthur (b. 1880--)
    - (6) Walter Ely (b. 1885--) Aurora, Neb.



e. David (1849-June 22, 1929) m. but no children. Died at Monroe, Wis.  
buried at Sutton, Neb.

f. Sarah E. (1855-?) g. Adeline (1857-?) h. Emeline (no dates known)

i. John A. (1859-1924) m. Nettie B. Painter (1864-1944). Both buried in Monroe.

(1) Mazie m. Clyde Smith. Reside in section 32, Jefferson township near  
the original site of the settlement formed by David Clark, Jeremiah,  
and John Bridge in 1835-36.

(a) Venoda m. Harry Huffman. Monroe, Wis.

(2) Jay Monroe, Wis.

j. William W. (1864-1934) m. Lois --. Kalispell, Mont.

(1) Mrs. C.A. Castle. Waterloo, Ia.

(2) Mrs. Peter Stroible. Long Pine, Mont.

(3) Mrs. John A. Rhone. Ronan, Mont.

4. Jacob Voorhies (Sept. 3, 1825-1906) m. Betsy Ann (Elizabeth) Armstrong (1832-  
1880). Buried in Johnson Cemetery.

(a) William David (1850-1931) m. Mary Ella Boyer (1858-1933). Ludington, Mich.

(1) Earl S. (b. 1879) m. Emma Lou Cunningham, Dallas, Tex.

(a) Leona (b. 1906?)

(b) Thomas (b. 1909?) m. Louise---. Had Mary Lou.

(2) Jay (1882-1908?)

(a) Helen R. (b) Pierce

(3) Rodney (1885-1947) m. Helen L. Keen (nee Travers, b. 1880) in 1916.

(a) Lewis D. (Lt. Colonel) m. Odette Stoddard (b. 1920) in 1945.  
He was an aide to General Omar Bradley in World War II. (22)

(4) Grace m. Ross Hendricks. San Diego, Calif. <sup>on Mar. 6, 1883</sup> (Ill.)

(b) John Armstrong (1855-1921) m. Ella Memberg (1861-1947). Buried- Orangeville,

(1) Clay B. (b. 1884) m. Carrie Trumy (b. 1888) Orangeville, Ill.

(a) Carol (b. April 21, 1910) m. J. Milton Boston (b. 1907) in 1934.

1 Karon (Aug. 23, 1940) 2 Lenore (b. May 21, 1944)

3 Barbara (b. Oct. 7, 1947). Orangeville, Ill.

(B) Frances (b. March 8, 1912) m. Virgil Dickenson in . Oneida, Ill.

1 Terry (b. Apr. 10, 1946) (Terry Clay)

2 Craig (b. Nov. 21, 1948). (Craig Bridge)

(c) Ruth (b. July 9, 1915) m. Russell Hendrickson. Freeport, Ill.

1 Drew Elmor (b. Dec. 1, 1946).

2 Linda Sue (b. Jan. 18, 1948).

(d) Robert (b. Feb. 3, 1917) m. Almoda Zurbriggen. Ee Kalb, Ill.  
He served in World War II in the army with rank of Captain.

(1) Starr Lee (b. Feb. 7, 1943).

2 James Douglas (b. July 27, 1946).

3 Merry (b. Oct. 31, 1951).

(2) Mae (Matic) m. Frank Fowler. Officer of Barber-Goleman Company, Rockford

(c) Edwin (b. and d. 1869). Buried in Johnson Cemetery.

5. George Washington (May 25, 1827- March 11, 1894) m. Sarah Melissa DeLapp  
(Aug. 14, 1825-1913) on Aug. 31, 1850 (14). He was a farmer in Jefferson town-  
ship, Green County, Wis. (13). Moved to Monroe in 1881. Buried in Greenwood  
Cemetery, Monroe. Sarah was a sister of Nancy DeLapp who married Jeremiah  
Bridge. She also is buried in Greenwood Cemetery.

(a) Belle Naomi (1852-1923) m. Simon P. Noble (1847-1892).

(1) Frank (1870-1900) m. Lida Miller. Lived in Monroe, Wis.

(a) Grace m. Tom Linton. Had Tormie.

(b) Ruth. Chicago, Ill.

(2) George Washington (1875-1949) m. Margaret Elizabeth Chambers (b. 1878).  
He was a veterinarian in Blanchardville, Wis. and later in Artesia,  
Calif.

Belle remarried, to Fred Walls (d. about 1911), and later to Simon  
Saucerman (1845-1916).



(a) Margaret Isabel (b. 1902) m. Le Roy Penniston, June 26, 1925. Milwaukee. (Her picture was in the Milwaukee Journal of June 26, 1949.)  
 (1) Barbara (b. 1931) m. Alvin Smith, June 26, 1953. Milwaukee  
 (2) Lee (b. 1938)  
 (b) Gertrude (b. May, 1904) m. Lester Nottingham, Nov. 1950. Artesia, Calif.  
 (c) Frank (b. 1906) m. Hilda Giegholt (d. about 1942); m. Audrey-- in 1948. Artesia, Calif.  
 (1) Donna (b. Nov. 28, 1932; (2) Dorothy (b. July 21, 1939.  
 (d) George (b. 1913) m. Elythe Behrend. Artesia, Calif.  
 (1) Carol (2) George

b. Mary Catherine (b. 1853) m. Jim M. Noble who was a brother of Simon P. Noble  
 (1) Clyde (b. about 1875) Clovis, N. Mex. (d. 1954)  
 (a) Frank Louis -retired naval officer, Oceanside (?), Calif.  
 (b) Jessie m. ---- Scott, Clovis, N. Mex.  
 (c) Cora m. ---- Hanagarne, Shiprock, N. Mex.  
 (d) Alice m. Dan Wyatt, Rutherford, N. Mex. (3 children)  
 c. Arabella (b. and d. 1855) (d. 1951)  
 d. Louesa (1857- May 1, 1871)  
 e. John Fremont (Jan. 21, 1862-April 22, 1948) Beloit, Wis. buried-Orangeville, Ill. m. Flora James Had Florence; teacher, Mineral Point, Wis.  
 m. Maud Belle Skinner (Sept. 9, 1875-Dec. 31, 1952) in 1894. Had:  
 (1) Zora (March 10, 1897-April 19, 1950). m. William Share (b. March 11, 1890) in 1920. Beloit, Wis. Had:  
 (a) William Fremont (b. Nov. 9, 1926) m. Jeanne Whittmore. Milwaukee.  
 (2) George H. (b. Dec. 5, 1898) m. Grace Stauffacher (b. Jan. 22, 1899) in 1919. Beloit, Wis. Had: Marian (b. April 1, 1923) m. Le Roy Phillips (b. 1921) in 1941. Monroe, Wis. Had: Y Kent (b. 1943)  
 (3) Ralph R. (b. Oct. 30, 1900) m. Ferne Daininger (b. June 7, 1905) in 1930. Juda, Wis. Had: (a) Frederick John (b. Feb. 21, 1932),  
 (b) Nancy Jane (b. Sept. 20, 1935)  
 (c) Marilynne Kathryn (b. Nov. 28, 1941)  
 (4) John H. (b. May 6, 1903) m. Dorothy Montefolt (b. February, 1917) in 1935. South Beloit, Ill. Had: (a) Mary Belle (b. July, 1936)  
 (b) Bonnie Jean (b. June, 1937)  
 (c) John Thomas (b. May, 1939).

6. Katharine Voorhies (b. March 22, 1829) m. Daniel Doty Clark  
 a. William Mc Kinley m. --- Appleby. (His father-in-law was John F. Appleby, inventor of the Appleby Knotter in 1858, and the Twine Binder about 1878 (23))  
 1. Edwin (b. and d. 1851) 2. Willard (d. 1862)  
 3. Sarah A. (d. 1865)

7. Isaac Newton (b. April 19, 1831) m. Louisa Miller (b. 1832 & 1835) in 1849. He was a Civil War veteran. Had: a. Alice A. (b. 1858) m. --- Stout. Arkansas.  
 b. ----- (b. 1859) c. Charles Wesley (b. 1862) Clinton, O.

8. David J. (b. Feb. 23, 1833) m. Mary Elizabeth Stevenson (b. 1838). Had:  
 a. Ida C. (b. 1853) m. William Jackson.  
 b. Ada F. (b. 1860) m. George Benage

9. Cornelius Voorhies (b. Feb. 21, 1835-1880) m. Martha Jane Stevenson (1835-1882). He was a 1st Lt. in the Wisconsin Artillery in the Civil War. Later served as a school principal at Alton, Ill. Is buried in the old Oakley cemetery,  
 a. Infant died  
 b. Judson Boozza who lived in Denver, Colo.



a. Infant died  
 b. Judson Boosa, Denver, Colo.

### 2. Elizabeth

Elizabeth was probably the name of John's oldest daughter. "We believe she was born in 1800 and died October 18, 1823. This date of death for an Elizabeth Bridge is the first entry in the Bible of her brother, Jeremiah Bridge. This Bible is owned by his granddaughter, Mrs. Letha Eagon of Seattle, Wash. The evidence for the identity of this Elizabeth is as follows: "We know that John had five daughters (14, p. 969; 16, p. 391) four of whom grew to maturity and are known to us. The fifth was lost until several bits of circumstantial evidence have pointed to the above identification. First, the 1820 census of Freble County tells us of these five, two were then in the age class 16-26. One of these we know, also the dates for the three daughters who were younger. So presumably the missing daughter was in this class in 1820. Assuming the usual spacing of the seven children whose birthdates we know, at least approximately, it is a good guess that the missing daughter in this age class was born between David and Jeremiah whose birthdates were 1798 and 1802, respectively. If so, she would have been about 20 years old when the census was taken. That she died unmarried three years later is probable from the entry in Jeremiah's Bible.

### 3. Jeremiah

Jeremiah was born August 24, 1802. In 1827, on May 3, he married Anna K. Johnson, born in Pennsylvania on August 1, 1810. They evidently settled first in Illinois because according to the census records, their four children were all born there between 1828 and 1834.

He served as a sergeant in the Black Hawk War, according to his son Joseph's obituary in the "Independent Register", Brodhead, "is.

In 1836, Jeremiah moved to the Wisconsin wilderness with his father and brother and settled in Section 20 of Jefferson township, Green County, in 1836. Later he acquired land in Sections 31 and 32 also. (13, p. 167; 14, p. 869) Soon after their arrival, on January 17, 1837, Anna died. "This was the first death



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in Jefferson township, and hers was the first grave in the little Johnson cemetery founded by the Bridges on the adjoining Johnson farm.

In November 1833, Jeremiah married his second wife, Nancy DeLap (later spelled Delapp) whose mother, Mary Haddinger (sometimes written Eddinger) was of Pennsylvania Dutch descent. <sup>Nancy</sup> Mary was born Jan. 9, 1822, in Nashville, Tenn. The DeLaps like the Bridges were pioneers who came to Wisconsin in 1836 (13, p. 81). The family is known from their Bible record which is owned by Ralph Bridge of Juda, Wis., and a few miscellaneous sources.

The children of Thomas DeLap (b. Oct. 30, 1783) and Mary Haddinger DeLap (b. March 26, 1797) were:

1. Henrietta	b. Feb. 19, 1816
2. Abigail	b. Sept. 20, 1817; d. Aug. 25, 1819
3. Anderson	b. Jan. 18, 1819; d. July 26, 1819.
4. Eliza Jane	b. Nov. 19, 1820; d. March 9, 1854; m. H. Brown
5. Nancy	b. Jan. 9, 1822; d. May 7, 1850 m. Jeremiah Bridge
6. Polly	b. April 14, 1823
7. John F.	b. June 19, 1824
8. Sally (Sarah McLeiss)	b. Aug. 24, 1825; d. 1913. m. George W. Bridge
9. Elizabeth	b. Oct. 2, 1826
10. Horace	b. Oct. 30, 1827; d. March 20, 1871.
11. Isabelle (Mary ?)	b. March 6, 1829; d. April 4, 1885; m. Thomas G. Noble-1851

Nancy DeLap gave Jeremiah eight children before she died at the birth of the last one on May 7, 1850, at the age of twenty-eight years. All we know of her is told by two samplers. One owned by Nancy Jane Bridge of Juda, Wis., was worked by her niece, Mary Noble, in 1850 and reads:

"Daughter thou was mild and lovely  
Gentle as the summer breeze  
Pleasant as the air of evening  
When it floats among the trees."

The other sampler, worked by her daughter, Anna, and now owned by Anna's daughter, Mrs. Horace Eagon of Seattle, Wash., reads:

"Peaceful be thy silent slumber  
Peaceful in thy grave so low,  
Thou no more wilt join our number,  
Thou no more our songs shall know."

Nine years later, in 1859, Jeremiah was married a third time, to Sarah W. Matthews (1819-1898), a widow with a daughter Mary (1854-1927). These women are not buried with Jeremiah and the other Bridges in Johnson cemetery but in Twin

\* A printed funeral notice found in the DeLap Bible reads: "Funeral Notice: The friends and acquaintances of J. and F.M. Delapp are respectfully invited to the funeral services of their son, "Horor," from the Christian Church, to begin at 10 1/2 o'clock, A.M., Rushville, Ill., June 4th, 1854."



Grove Cemetery with Mary's husband, John H. Williams (1848-1928).

Jeremiah lived on his farm most of his life but the 1860 census lists him as a resident of Monroe. He was a county commissioner in 1838, and later a Jefferson township officer and committee member (13, p.52; 14, pp.176, 396; 17, p.9). He was evidently a successful farmer for when he died on October 27, 1865, he was in possession of twelve "country properties" and several lots in Monroe and Twin Grove which are listed in the inventory filed with his will in the court house at Monroe. His farms were bought by John Fisher, father of Mary (Mollie), wife of Jeremiah's son John. The proceeds were divided among Jeremiah's children a list of whom, with their descendants, follows. They were Elizabeth, Caroline, Melvina, Anna, Josephus, Ellen, John, and Emma. The graves of some of them are found in Monroe's Greenwood cemetery, and in Johnson Cemetery near Fairfield, and Twin Grove Cemetery.

In 1827 Jeremiah married his first wife, Anna K. Johnson (1810-Jan. 10, 1837). Their descendants are:

1. Elizabeth C. (Feb. 19, 1823-Dec. 29, 1897) m. John Monroe Chadwick (Oct. 7, 1822-April 28, 1897) in 1846. He was a livestock dealer, living in Monroe at the time of the 1870 census.
  - a. Abigail b. and d. in 1847
  - b. Martha (1849-1927) m. Charles Fisher (b. 1847), son of John Fisher who bought Jeremiah's farm when the latter died in 1865.
    1. Sally (1871-1950) adopted. Became a light-opera star. Obituary in Monroe Evening Times of June 16, 1950.
    - c. Mary (1851-1852)
    - d. Leroy C. (1852-1856)
    - e. Jehu (Sept. 9, 1854- Sept. 23, 1886 or 1888)
    - f. Kate C. (1856-1937) m. Byron Hopkins. Naples, Me.
      - (1) Celia (2) Ned
    - g. Frank (1859-1930) m. Lena Ellingson
    - h. Edith (1862-1863)
  2. Debbyann (1829-1830)
  3. Caroline Rhoda (April 20, 1832- Feb. 27, 1888) m. Jeremiah Banta (b. 1830), her cousin, in August 1850(18). She and three of her children died of typhoid fever. The Monroe Sentinel for Feb. 29, 1888, printed a notice of the deaths entitled "Is This the Will of Providence?"
    - a. Alice (Dec. 19, 1853-July 24, 1944) m. Dr. Nathan Allen Loafbourow (Oct. 9, 1849-July 6, 1913) of Monroe on Nov. 12, 1874 (14, p.426; 16, p.358; 17, p.15).
      - (1) Lela (b. March 29, 1884), joined the Catholic church and became a Dominican Nun, Sister Mary Reginaldus. Was in semi-retirement at Sinsinawa Convent near Hazel Green, Wis. in 1955.Alice was divorced and married to Ed W. Weston of Los Angeles, Calif.
    - b. Peter O. (1854-Feb. 26, 1869)
    - c. M. Belle (1856-Dec. 24, 1861)
    - d. Evalyn (Eva) (1858-1883)
    - e. Eugene (1864-1883)



- f. Elizabeth (Libbie) (1866-1902?) m. John Frask
- g. Caroline (Carrie) (1869-Feb. 26, 1888)
- h. Blanche m. Charles Leedham. Seattle, Wash.
- (1) Ruth m. Dr. William Grant, neurosurgeon, Pasadena, Calif.
- i. Grace (1876?-1902?)

4. Melvina (b. April 6, 1834) m. Daniel Banfill (b. 1828) in 1852. De Funiak Springs Florida

- a. Charles (b. 1856) in
- b. George (b. 1859) Aviator, Texas; m. Gulfport, Miss.  
(1) Charles (2) Marian, m. Isaacs in New York.

In November, 1838, Jeremiah married his second wife, Nancy McLap (1822-May 7, 1850). She was born in Nashville, Tenn. Their descendants are:

1. Martha Jane (1839-1842)
2. Anna Keziah (April 8, 1841-Jan. 9, 1929) m. George W. Wittenmyer (Sept. 3, 1831 or 1833-Jan. 10, 1914) on Sept. 16, 1856. He came from Perryville, Indiana. After marriage they moved to Dair County, Iowa, where the first two children were born. In 1862 they returned to Wisconsin. In 1875 they moved to Seattle, Wash.; their home was near 4th and Pike streets. They then moved to a farm near Juanita, Wash., and finally to nearby Kirkland.

a. Charles Lionroc (1857-1859)

b. Luella Josephine (June 6, 1861-July 30, 1938) m. Thomas Salter Hurd (Sept. 6, 1852-July 1, 1920) on March 11, 1891. He was born in Wallace County, ~~Pemberton~~ Nova Scotia and moved to Washington, becoming a U.S. citizen as a young man. He took up a homestead near La Conner, Wash., where he later owned the hotel and hardware store. After the panic of 1893 he moved to Roche Harbor, Wash., and finally settled in Seattle. Luella was in the first graduating class of the Normal School of the University of Washington.

(1) Annie May (b. July 28, 1893) m. Sebastian Karrer (b. April 10, 1889) on August 3, 1923. (29) (30)

(2) L. Hildred (b. Nov. 10, 1895), teacher of languages in Everett, Wash.

(3) Alec Embrec (Oct. 26, 1898-May 15, 1918) died at Ft. Sill, Okla. in World War

c. Walter Bridge (Apr. 12, 1864-Nov., 1953) m. Agnes Luvannc (Vannie) Hawley (March 7, 1866?-March 12, 1953) on Nov. 12, 1890.

(1) Frank L. (Oct. 6, 1891) m. --Elliott on March 31, 1919.

(a) Carl (b. Oct. 28, 1920) (b) Robert F. (b. Feb. 4, 1922)

(2) Jessie J. (b. Nov. 28, 1893) m. Wilcox on April 18, 1914.

(a) William Bridge (b. Jan. 10, 1915)

(b) Mary E. (b. 1917) (c) John W. (b. Feb. 23, 1919)

(3) Mary (Feb. 7, 1896-Dec. 9, 1906)

d. George Grant (b. 1870) m. Bessie Whittemore. Kirkland, Wash.

(1) Theodore (Ted)

e. Edith Anna (1878-1882)

f. Arthur Leigh (b. 1882) m. Maude Turner. Kirkland, Wash.

g. Letha Agnes (b. Nov. 16, 1885) m. Horace A. Eagon (Oct. 11, 1882-March 13, 1953) on Sept. 7, 1909. Kirkland and Seattle, Wash.

(1) Veryle (b. July 1, 1910) m. Margaret Vogel. Pasco, Wash.

(2) Glenn Gordon (b. Feb. 21, 1912) m. Helen Black (b. April 17, 1917) Kirkland, Wash.

(a) David Albert (b. Sept. 24, 1941)

(b) Dianne Elizabeth (b. Jan. 13, 1944)

(c) Gordon George (b. June 2, 1947)

(3) George Clifford (b. April 29, 1915) m. Elva Nelson (b. 1917) Seattle

(a) Verylene (b. March 31, 1943)



3. Josephus C. (Sept. 30, 1842-March 31, 1936) m. Mary J. Emerick (Nov. 28, 1847-March 20, 1917) on Dec. 24, 1864. Civil War veteran. Settled in Brodhead, Wis. His obituaries in Brodhead's "Independent Register" and the "Janesville Gazette" give further details.

- a. Frank H. (b. about 1867) m. ---- Gould. Sterling, Ill.
- b. Charles M. (April 28, 1869-April 19, 1946) m. Eliza Taylor. Madison, Wis.
- c. Lewis E. (d. 1947) Milwaukee, Wis.

4. Ellen H. (Well) (April 11, 1844-Oct. 19, 1891) m. John Hilton Fillebrown (Nov. 1, 1842-Feb. 11, 1929) in 1868. Enid, Okla.

- a. Charles Parker (July 9, 1869-June 29, 1945) m. Nora Barger (May 13, 1881-Jan. 7, 1906) Enid, Okla.
  - (1) Frances E. (b. June 27, 1907) m. Raymond C. Adair on June 31, 1934.
    - (a) Raymond (b. June 1, 1938)
  - (2) Thornton Barger (Oct. 21, 1908-Oct. 12, 1942) Died on U.S. Destroyer Duncan in Battle of Esperance, Guadalcanal, in World War II.
  - (3) John Hilton (b. April 26, 1910) m. Harry Blankenship in November, 1943.
    - (a) Mary (b. May 12, 1945)
    - (b) David J. (b. Dec. 30, 1919)
  - (4) Charles E. (b. July 31, 1912) m. Ruth D. Ferrill on Nov. 12, 1933.
    - (a) Charles J. (b. Jan. 26, 1936)
    - (5) Ruth Nora (b. April 23, 1916) Trenton, N.J.
- b. Ned Bridge (Sept. 17, 1872-July 12, 1935) Marlow, Okla.
- c. Martha (Mattice) Ellen (b. 1875) Enid, Okla.
- d. Emma (d. in infancy)

5. John W. (b. June 12, 1846) m. Ollie (Mary) Fisher (b. 1856) on Dec. 24, 1874. She was a sister of Charles, and daughter of that John who bought Jeremiah farms. Enid, Okla.

- a. Shirley Fisher (d. 1901) m. Helen Strutzel (d. 1946)
  - (1) John (Jack) Marshall m. Virginia Nelson. Minneapolis, Minn.
    - (a) Shirley

6. Nancy Angeline (Angie) (May 19, 1848-Nov. 6, 1854)

7. Emma (Frances Emeline) (May 19, 1848-Feb. 26, 1928) m. Edward L. Warner (d. Feb. 19, 1929) in 1883. Gardena, Calif.

8. Thomas (b. and d. 1850)

On June 12, 1859, Jeremiah married his third wife, Sarah W. Matthews (1819-1898), a widow with a daughter Mary (1854-1927). Mary married John H. Williams.

4. Matilda was probably born in 1804. We know it was between 1802, Jeremiah's birthdate, and 1809, the birthdate of John's next oldest child, Keziah, from the order in which the children are mentioned in John's will and in papers pertaining thereto. Some dates for Ohio Bridges sent us by Mrs. Grace Runyon of Eaton, Ohio, tell us that she married Joel DeCamp, presumably in Ohio on June 8, 1826. He came to Wisconsin in 1837 (13, p. 168) but we do not know whether she came with him. Papers filed with her father's will show that she was residing in Illinois in 1855. We know nothing of her children.



### 5. Koziah

Koziah was born Jan. 23, 1809, and died June 25, 1853. In 1828 she married Peter Banta (b. 1808), a minister of the Christian Church in Eaton, O. He was in charge of the reorganized church in Eaton from 1841 to 1845 (12, p. 103). Later he was with the Lower Stillwater Church of Christ in Butler County. Then in 1849 he organized the Christian Church in Chambersburg (12, f). Littell (26) refers to him as "a new-light preacher".

Koziah's grave is next to that of her father in Mound Hill Cemetery in Eaton. Her children and their birthdates were: Jeremiah, April 30, 1830; Effie Ann (married William Tyler), Feb. 14, 1832; Nancy Ellen (m. J. Miller or Mylor), July 24, 1834; Mary Jane (m. O. Carroll), April 23, 1836; Josephine Maria (m. William Hill), July 7, 1838; Rachel Louisa (m. J. Herbert), Nov. 24, 1840; Caroline E., Jan. 18, 1843.

Peter remarried in 1855 and lived in Troy, O., from about 1855 to at least 1893 (18).

### 6. Nancy

Nancy was born in 1811. She came with her parents to Wisconsin in 1836 (14, p. 871) and married Henry Starr (1811-Jan. 7, 1845). The 1860 census gives Illinois as the birthplace of their four children. Later she returned to Wisconsin, perhaps after her husband's death. We know she returned because the 1850 census lists her with her three young children, one having died earlier, in the household of her father in Green County, Wis. The children and their birthdates were: Mary E., 1839; Sarah, 1840 (d. 1842); Ezra P., 1843; Adam D., 1844, lived in Iowa.

### 7. Deborah Ann

Deborah Ann was born about 1811. Her age as given to the census enumerator in 1850 and 1860 would indicate that her date was 1815, but since this would be the same as that we know to be the birthdate of her younger brother John it is likely that she gave her age at her last birthday in each case and that her date is 1814. She and her sister Nancy came to Wisconsin with their parents in 1836. She soon married Michael Albin (b. 1811) who came from Ohio and settled near the Bridges in 1836 or 1837 (13, p. 168; 14, p. 869, 871). They moved from Wisconsin to Douglas County, Clinton Township, Kansas, in 1853. Their children with dates of birth were: Nancy C., 1839; Susan E., 1840; Emily E., 1844; Sarah A., 1846; William W., born and died in 1849.



8. John Hathaway was born April 3, 1815, in Preble County, Ohio, (16, p.391).

He died in Colorado on June 5, 1884. In 1836 he had married Nancy Samplo (Feb. 19, 1815-Oct. 30, 1899) of Virginia. Some details concerning her are given in her obituary published in the Monroe Evening Times of October 31, 1899.

In 1835 John came with his brothers to Wisconsin and selected land in Section 30 in Jefferson Township, Green County. He returned to Ohio the next year and came back with his family in 1840 and settled on his land.

Our sources of information about John H. besides the county histories referred to in connection with other members of the family (13, pp.132, 175; 14, pp.392, 868, 871, 969) are the Commemorative Biographical Records for Some Wisconsin Counties (16, p.391) in which that of his son Joseph is the only Bridge biography included, the monument in the family lot in Monroe which gives the names and dates of all his children, an old diary (28) and the two articles published in the Monroe Sentinel for June 11, 1884, at the time of his death. Incidentally, our learning from Fred Bolender of Monroe (d.1955) that John's middle initial (H.) stood for Hathaway was our first bit of evidence connecting the Wisconsin Bridges with their Revolutionary forefather, Benjamin Bridge of New Jersey and Ohio, who was known to have married a Hathaway.

John was the first deacon of the Christian church organized by the pioneer settlers in Jefferson Township in 1840 under the leadership of his brother David. He was the first treasurer of the township, "a man of notable industry, strict probity and strong character". He became one of the largest landowners and cattle raisers in the township and built one of the largest buildings in Monroe about 1857. He took an active part in bringing the first railroad to Monroe. He retired to live in Monroe in 1873. There is a portrait of him in one of the Green County histories (14, facing page 523).

In 1884 he and his son Joseph went on a trip to Colorado "to see the lands beyond the Mississippi" and visited in Iowa and Kansas, we are told by the posthumous article about him in the Monroe Sentinel for June 11 of that year.

He died at the home of John M. Chadwick, a nephew by marriage, in Denver,



"cholera morbus". The Sentinel goes on to say "he had lived an industrious, plodding sort of life until within a few years, when he retired from farming to live in Monroe, investing in real estate, and receiving a handsome income from his accumulated wealth".

He was buried in Greenwood cemetery, Monroe, where the family monument tells of successive tragedies that must have saddened his life,-the early deaths of five of his children leaving but one, Joseph, to grow to maturity. His children were: Susan Ann (Susanna) (1837-8); Jeremiah (1838-40); Emaline (1845-54); Benjamin F. (1847-60); Joseph T. (Oct. 9, 1849-Aug. 19, 1895); John (1856-7).

Joseph T. Bridge's biography (16, p. 391-392) and his obituary in the Monroe Sentinel for August 21, 1895, tell us that like his father he was a prominent, well-to-do citizen of Monroe, an alderman on the Christian church. He inherited his father's large estate (including a farm in Jefferson Township) which he increased by "prudent management". His obituary states that he was exemplary in habits, a clean man and a good citizen respected by all who knew him.

Joseph's wife, whom he married Dec. 22, 1874, was Anna Hosier (d. 1892). Her parents were Evan Abram and Rachel Hosier, who first came to Wisconsin from Ohio in 1850, and whose children besides Anna were: Harrison of Denver, Colo., Sarah E., Abram, and George B. of Kansas City, Mo.

The children of Joseph and Anna Hosier Bridge were:

1. Freddie (1875-1877)
2. Burton Hathaway m. Nona Thorpe (1878-1951) of Monroe on Dec. 31, 1901.  
They moved to Long Beach, Calif., about 1925. Had:
  - a. Flora m. --Schumacher. Dallas, Texas
  - b. Evolyn m. --Scanlong. Long Beach, Calif.
  - c. Ruth m. --Constable. New Orleans, La.
3. Daisy R. Long Beach, Calif.
4. Ethel m. Frank Damron, Long Beach, Calif.



## AUTHORITIES

Note: We have been unable to link the New Jersey Bridge family with those of Massachusetts who, with their descendants, comprise the published "Genealogy of the John Bridge Family in America, 1632-1924", by William B. Bridge, and "An Account of the Descendants of John Bridge (Cambridge 1622)" by William Frederick Bridge, 1884.

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3. Documents Relating to the Colonial History of New Jersey. Calendar of Wills. (a) v.3 (1751-1760) p.42; (b) v.5 (1771-1780) p.64; (c) v.4 (1761-1770) p.53.
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- 10a. Official Roster of the Soldiers of the American Revolution Buried in the State of Ohio, p.51. Publ. by Ohio Adjutant-General's Office, 1929. Note: This reference contains several errors, viz., the date of the war, Benjamin Bridge's birthplace are, probably the date of birth, and the county in Ohio where he was a pensioner in 1813.



10b. Official Roster of the Soldiers of the American Revolution who Lived in the State of Ohio, p.68. 1938. Publ. by D.A.R.'s State Society. [Note: The name of John Bridge (1774-1855) is mistakenly included herein.]

10c. D.A.R. Lineage Book 90:107. [Note: Benjamin Bridge's wife's name was Elizabeth, not Mary as given here].

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## APPENDIX I

Letter written by Ebenezer Bridge (b. 1791) from  
Cass County, Indiana, to his Wisconsin relatives

"Cass County Ind January the 15th, 1850

Dear friends- After a long long laps of time I take my pen in hand to inform you that we are all in good health hoping you are all injoying the same blessing. We received your letter bearing date Dec. the 2nd, 1849 yesterday which gave us much satisfaction, I will now provide to give you some account of our situation in life and of our family and relations and old acquaintences.

We are living 9 miles N.E. of Logansport in Cass County where we moved ~~to~~ 13 years ago last spring. We have 240 acres of land hear of a good quality well wattered by a good stream of stock watter runing through it and some 6 or 8 good springs on it. Well timbored. we have got 95 acres in cultivation and about 180 acres under fence and 160 acres of land in Pulaskie County about 25 miles from where we live.

Our oldest son went to Mexico as you have heard. He went under General Scott and he returned no more. He died near the Citty of Mexico of the common diseas of that country. The loss to us is irrepaireble. But two oldest girls is married. Sarah Elizabeth married Joseph A. Howland and is living about 25 milos from us. Caroline married William H. Henton and lives about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles from us. Our other two children is at home. William is small of his age and not able to do much good on the farm so I am sonding him to school the most of the time. Elizabeth and Caroline's husbands have both got land of their own. Father Sellors died the next fall after he came to this county of a Appoplectic fit and Mother Sellors died the next spring a year with the dropsey and Elizabeth Sellors died the summer following with consumption and Orpah diod about a year ago of a female complaint. Joseph Sellors/is living in Logansport and John Sellors is living about 30 miles from here. John and Joseph han been



hawing about their fathers estate ever since the old man died and are both nearly  
brok up. Joseph administered on his fathers estate and John Scot and Samuel  
Ward Sr. went his bale. Have 12 hundred and 50 dollars to pay for him which  
will brako them if they cant come at his property. They have commenced suit  
in Chancery which will be tried in February next if not put off.

Samuel Ward is living in Pulaski County about 20 miles from me and is doing well  
enough if he can save his property. He and his family was all well 2 weeks ago.  
Sally Richardson departed this life last summer. Little John Sellers and wife  
is both dead. They died at their residence about 15 miles from us. Nathan  
Sellers lives about 35 miles from us and was all well not long since.

Tell your father [John (1774-1855)] that his old friend John Wats died in this  
county about 2 years ago. His children is all living about here and doing well.  
We heard from your Aunt Sarah Clark about 4 months ago at which time shu was  
well. His son (?) John Thompson is dead.

I now will inform you that Francis Bridge lives at Niles, statu of Mishigan and  
I shall this day rite to him and also send him the letter that you directed to  
him and myself. I shall advise him to do somothing about his land quickly. I  
think he is in a poor situation to do much and if your or any of your friends  
can save it it would bo better than to let it go into tho hands of strangers. I  
recceivcd a letter from one Jaboz Johnson tho same day that I got yours who lives  
in your county and who I think is trying to get hold of it. I will just say  
honesty is a very good policy.

Our crops of wheat the past season was quite poor, oats midling, corn good.

Wheat is worth from 60 to 75 cents, oats 25, corn 25 and on the rise.

Our cannall has been compleated from Logansport to the Lako several years ago  
and will soon be finished to the Ohio River. We have two lines of the Electro  
Magnetic telegraph pasng through Logansport, one North and South, the other East  
and West so that we can get the news from any part of the Union in less than no  
time. That is to say news started at Washington City at six o'clock reaches



Logansport at half past five. Quick work. Dont laugh but what wont Yankee wit do next? (you)

Now I want/to rite to me soon and answer the following questions. How far do you live from Chicawago? How far from Millward [Milwaukee]? Where is your place of market for grain? What can a hundred and sixty acres of good pararie and timber land be got for with watter on it and a small improvement? How is your country proportioned for timber and pararie? Is there plenty of building rock and what sort of timber in general is there? Is there much watter? Can you depend on fall wheat or do you have to sow spring wheat? Have you good flower mills handy and how far do you live from Madison your seat of government?

You speak in your letter of my coming to see you which I would bo glad to do and think I will if life and health are spared me but it is somewhat difficult for me to leave home in the summer time on account of having but little help on my farm and I cant stand the cold to travel in the winter but whether I come or not it does appear to me that some of you might come and see us. Your father I should suppose is in easy circumstances now and no family to take care of. Try and get him started if the rest of you cant spare the time.

I must close my letter. This is intended alike for al the friends in your county. Farowell. From Ebenezer Bridge and family

To David C. Bridge and all the rest."

The letter has been folded, sealed with sealing wax, and addressed on the reverse side:

"Mr David C Bridge  
Green County Wisconsin  
Post Office Monroe

Ebenczer Bridge  
Notca Ia ID  
Jany 16

On each end fourth which had been folded under, and on the top part of the addressed part other messages were written in order to use every bit of space and to convey this further information: "When you rite to Francis Bridge direct your letter to Berrien County, State of Mishigan, post office at Niles. I received a letter from Nancy Starr about a year ago and I am to blame for not answering it. Your Aunt June is still thriving and she now weights nearly 200.



Beat that if you can. When you write to me direct your letters to Cass County, Indiana, Metea post office.

I am thinking something about selling out. If I do it is likely I shall pass through your country before I settle myself again. I hold my farm at 35 hundred dollars and when I get that it goes.

It is given <sup>out</sup> ~~up~~ that your Aunt Jane is the handsomest old woman in the country. If any of you should think it worth your time or money to visit us your best route will be to Chicago, thence to Michigan City then to Laporte. Then to Plymouth then take the Michigan Road to within nine miles of Logansport. There turn to the East three miles is where the old coon lives."

## APPENDIX II

### Other Bridge Families

Some of the Bridges now living in Ohio may be descended from that Benjamin (p. 9<sup>b</sup> of this paper) who married Elizabeth Davis in Butler County, Ohio, in 1816. We have no record of their children. The name Ben (for Benjamin) Bridge on a downtown jewelry store window in Seattle interests us. Also the case of that Francis Bridge living in Miles, Michigan, in 1850 who named his first son Benjamin.

The 1850 letter from Ebenezer, who lived near Metea in Cass County, Indiana, (Appendix I) to his Wisconsin relatives refers to Francis in such terms as to show that he was a relative known to our Wisconsin family. On searching the 1850 Census of Berrien County, Michigan, we found a Francis D. Bridge, 37 years old. He was born in Ohio as were his two older children, Julia, 8 years, and Patience, 6 years. The older son, Benjamin, 4 years, was born in Indiana, and the youngest child, Joshua, 1 year, in Michigan. No wonder if Francis could have been the son of that Benjamin who was Ebenezer's older brother, his middle initial possibly standing for Davis, his mother's surname. Unfortunately, if his age were really thirty-seven years in 1850, his birthdate would have been 1813, three years before the marriage date recorded for Benjamin.



William Bridge, Ebenezer's son, may have had sons. Several Bridgess, Harry and George, whose father was Albert, are now living near Lucerne not far from Metea. Harry living at Royal Center has sons, Jim and Bob, and a daughter, Margaret Kay.

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Two men of our original New Jersey family whose descendants we have not been able to trace in that state might have moved West. There was Ralph, brother of our Revolutionary ancestor Benjamin of Morristown, and Lewis, son of that Benjamin's brother John. So there is certainly the possibility that some of those other Bridge families whose names appear in the annals of Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin are related to the line we have been tracing.

For instance there was a John Bridge of Butler County, Ohio, who was killed in the Civil War (12a, p.237). On page 305 of this history a John Bridge is listed in the "Register of the First Adult Members" of the Presbyterian Church of Hamilton, Ohio. The ancestors of our Bridge line were Presbyterians in New Jersey.

We should mention also the Reverend George Bridge whose uncalled-for mail in the Eaton, Ohio, post office caused his name to be listed in the "Eaton Democrat" for June 2, 1853, which we found in the Ohio Historical Society's library in Columbus while searching for obituaries.

In The History of Christian County, Illinois, (12d) there is a biographical note about a John A. Bridge who was born in 1840, son of Thomas Bridge of Camden, Preble County, Ohio. Camden is just a few miles south of Eaton, hence very near the farm on which our Bridge family lived. Thomas was born in Butler County, whence came our Bridgess. His father came from New Jersey, whence came our Bridgess. John's wife is mentioned as a member of the Christian church, to which our Bridgess belonged after moving to Ohio. Incidentally, The History of Preble County (12) tells us that J.A. Bridge was living in that county at the time of the Civil War, that he served in the Ohio infantry, and later (1868) moved to Assumption, Ill.

In the Eaton Court House there is a land deed signed by a Thomas and Susanna Bridge. Mrs. Grace Runyon of Eaton has sent us the following data copied from



36

old tombstones in the vicinity of Eaton: Thomas Bridge b. Apr. 19, 1813, d. 188-; Susarna Bridge, b. June 15, 1814, d. May 7, 1839; Susan Bridge, b. June 1, 1815, d. Nov. 27, 1877; Lydia Bridge, d. Apr. 10, 1818.

The Thomas of the two preceding paragraphs, father of J.A. Bridge of the biographical note, may have been the son of that Benjamin who was the seventh child of our ancestor Benjamin (p. 9<sup>b</sup> of our outline). The reasons for the suspicion are not only his name Thomas, but the fact that his father is said to have been born in New Jersey, as we can assume the younger Benjamin was, since the youngest child of the family, Ebenezer, was born there. This younger Benjamin was in Butler County in 1816, we know from his marriage record, and the biographical note says Thomas was born there.

Some Bridges from Massachusetts were living in Champaign County, Ohio, in the early eighteen hundreds (12a) later moving to Madison County, Indiana. Two of them, John Townsend Bridge and his son John, were principals in a famous trial at Fall Creek, near Pendleton, Ind., in 1824. They and three others, Harper, Sawyer, and Hudson, raided an encampment of Seneca Indians and killed nine of them. They were brought to trial and sentenced to be hanged as examples in the government's efforts to bring order to the frontiers. Harper escaped. Young John Bridge was reprieved at the last moment because of his youth. The other three were hanged in a forest glade to which came numerous Indians invited to witness the justice meted out by the Great White Father. These were said to be the first white men ever executed for killing Indians. ("Early Indiana Trials", pp. 51, 55, 166, 177, 178, by Oliver H. Smith, 1858). Helen Thurman in her "Fall Creek Tragedy" (Indiana Mag. of Hist., v. 27, p. 230, 1931) says this Bridge family came from Butler County, Ohio, and that they returned there after the trial, later coming back to Indiana. John, he who was reprieved, settled in Delphi, while his brothers James (Helen Thurman's grandfather) and Joseph settled in Carroll County. John had a son Jacob, who had a son William F. So some of the numerous Bridges now in Ohio may trace their ancestry to these



families that came from Massachusetts originally.

There were many Bridges in Massachusetts at the time of the Revolution. Records of their descendants comprise two published genealogies. They trace to their lineage to "John Bridge, the Puritan" who came from Essex in England to Cambridge, Mass., in 1632 and rose to such eminence that he was memorialized by a statue on Harvard's campus. One of them, named Ebenezer incidentally, is referred to as one of the outstanding heroes of the Battle of Bunker Hill by Daniel Webster in his oration at the laying of the cornerstone of the monument there. If there is a linkage between our New Jersey family and these early Massachusetts families it is in a generation antedating those we know.

It is just as likely that the New Jersey family came directly from England. For instance such a contemporary arrival was that of the Reverend Thomas Bridge of London (son of the Rev. Robert Bridge of Tillington, Essex) who became the first minister of a Presbyterian church at Fairfield, now Fairborn, New Jersey, in 1695. Because of his name Thomas, and his church affiliation, we hoped to find that he was the father of our earliest known ancestor, Thomas Bridge of Morristown. After much searching of early records we found that he did indeed have a son and that his name was Thomas but he died of smallpox in infancy!

Thomas left New Jersey in 1704 to become assistant pastor of the First Church in Boston, where he died in 1715. Brewster's "Life of William Patterson, Founder of the Bank of England" quotes the following from Patterson's will of 1718: "After my debts are paid, I give to Elizabeth, my daughter-in-law, one child to my first wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Turner, relict to the late Mr. Thomas Bridge, minister of the gospel in Boston, in New England, fifteen hundred pounds".

Thomas had a brother, Christopher, who was an assistant minister at the Anglican King's Chapel in Boston from 1699 to 1706 when he was removed for insubordination. He had come from England in 1698. He had two sons, Christopher and Thomas, who were under fourteen years of age in 1706. This young Thomas therefore could have been our Thomas of Morristown—who "renewed covenant" with the church in 1745, but we have no evidence to confirm the suspicion.



## APPENDIX AND ERRATA

Page	Line	
4	last	Insert before the last sentence: In 1778 he was serving as a private in the Eastern Regiment of the Morris County Militia.
7	25	Insert Sept. 19 before 1874.
	27	William's children were Susanna, Edward, and George.
8	29	Date of birth was 1850.
10	6	Name is Wilhelm and place is Macomb.
	26	Third name is Pauline.
	31	Name is Hartlie.
	34	Name is Vern.
12	17	Allin moved to Douglas County, Kansas, in 1853.
17	3 from bottom	Name is Hagemeister.
19	40	After 1878 insert reference (23).
	42	Name is Sarah.
21	5	Change Mary to Nancy.
	19	Change birthdate of Sally to Aug. 14.
	21	Date of marriage was 1851.
22	12	Add Twin Grove Cemetery.
	13	Year of Jeremiah's marriage was 1827.
	15	Year of Elizabeth's death was 1873.
	32	Change 1850 to 1852.
	35	Name was spelled Loofbourow.
23	10	Nancy's birthdate was Jan. 9.
	21	Change Wallace County to near Wallace, Cumberland County.
	22	Insert after Washington: in 1875.
	28	After 1893 insert reference (20).
	31	At the end of the line add: in World War I.
	36	Jessie m. Donald Wilcox. Her daughter Mary m. Graves.
	40	Bessie was married in 1895, died in 1941.
	41	Read: Edward Bridge (Ted) (b. May 24, 1903) m. Goldie --- (d. 1954) and had George Stratton (b. Jan. 7, 1923) and Glenn Darwin (b. Mar. 7, 1924).
	43	Arthur m. Maude Turner.
24	1	Mary's surname was Emorick.
	10	After Barger read: (b. May 13, 1881) on
	14	The Destroyer was the Duncan.
	24	John was a Civil War Veteran.
	35	John Williams' initial was H.



## Page      Line

25      1 et seq. Name is Keziah.  
15      After Wisconsin insert: in.  
23      Deborah was born in 1814.

26      11      Third word is Commemorative.  
23      After became insert: one.

27      9      Benjamin died in 1860.

29      20      After portrait insert: opposite p. 522.

30      6      Author is Halsey.  
10      "      Tompkins.  
11      "      Nebelthau.  
16      Delete editor and insert: Publ. by A.N. Marquis Co.

34      14      Read p. 9b instead of p. 9 .

36      6      Ditto.

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